

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 9-19, 21-25, and 28-32 are pending in this application. Claims 8 and 20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claims 1, 9-13, 21-24, and 28-32 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 9-13, 21-24, and 28-32 are supported by the original claims, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-25 and 28-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Klein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,726,885, herein “Klein”) in view of Steinberg et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,750,902, herein “Steinberg”).

Initially, applicant and applicant’s representative thank Examiner Nguyen and Examiner Mooneyham for the interview held on August 31, 2005 to discuss the present application. During the interview, differences between the claimed invention and the cited references were discussed in detail. Examiner Mooneyham agreed to reconsider the rejections of record after formal submission of an amendment.

As requested in the outstanding Office Action, a marked and unmarked copy of the Substitute Specification is enclosed herewith.

Claims 28-31 are amended to comply with 35 U.S.C. §101, as discussed during the interview.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Klein in view of Steinberg, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

the client terminal comprises an image transmission method designating unit configured to designate, at the time of reservation, server terminal information related to a method of transmission of input image data once the information device is returned, wherein the input image data is an image captured by

the information device and input from the information device to the server terminal, and

the server terminal transmits the input image data based on the method of transmission.

Klein describes a vehicle reservation system including chip cards programmed to authorize the use of a vehicle.¹ As no data is transmitted to the user after the user returns the car, no method of transmission of data needs to be designated, at the time of reservation or at any other time. Accordingly, there is no teaching or suggestion in Klein for “an image transmission method designating unit,” as recited in amended Claim 1.

Further, Steinberg does not discuss reserving or lending any object for any period of time. Thus, there is no need to transmit any data to a user after the user returns the device. Therefore, there is no discussion of designating, at the time of reservation or any other time, a method of transmission of data. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that Steinberg also does not teach or suggest “an image transmission method designating unit” as recited in amended Claim 1.

Consequently, as the cited references do not teach or suggest each and every element of Claim 1, Claim 1 (and Claims 2-7, 9-12, and 32 dependent therefrom) is patentable over the cited references.

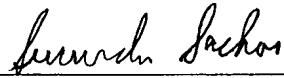
As independent Claims 13, 28, and 31 recite similar elements to Claim 1, Claims 13, 28, and 31 (and Claims 14-19, 21-25, 29, and 30 dependent therefrom) are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

¹See Klein, column 4, lines 46-50.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

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